



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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Session 1

## **Where are we on ROOs?**

Submitted by: MAG Convenor



**Trade Policy Dialogue on Rules of Origin  
Singapore  
21 May 2009**

# *Where are we on ROOs ?*

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CTI-MAG Trade Policy Dialogue on Rules of Origin (ROO)  
21 May 2009, Singapore

## *SOM's Instruction on ROOs*

- SOM 1 decided to work for “making rules of origin more business-friendly” as one of the key priorities for 2009.
- SOM tasked CTI and MAG the work on the following three areas.
  - harmonization
  - cumulation
  - simplification of documents and procedures

## *Harmonization*

- Sector-specific work is on-going at MAG.
  - consumer electronics (US)
  - steel (Japan)
  - white goods/musical instruments (Australia)
  - bicycles and related products (Chinese Taipei)
- Findings are not necessarily consistent.
- MAG agreed to continue this work.

## *Cumulation*

- It is understood by MAG that there are different types of cumulation.
  - Cumulation within an FTA  
(e.g., Australia-US FTA, Japan-ASEAN EPA )
  - Cumulation between FTAs (“diagonal”)  
(e.g. pan-Euro-Mediterranean cumulation zone)
  - Other? (“cross-cumulation”?)

## *Simplification of documents and procedures*

- Deliverables are expected in a short term.
- MAG and SCCP are working in cooperation.
- Business survey was conducted by MAG.
- Concrete proposals are on the table (MAG, CTI).
  - Transparency on Tariff and ROOs (“Web TR”) (by Japan and US)
  - Best practices for simplification (by Singapore)
  - Others?

## *Remaining issues -- for the discussion of TPD*

- Future direction on harmonization and cumulation?
- More deliverables on simplification of documents and procedures?
- Others?



*Thank you.*